

State of Alaska FY2008 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Fish and Game Fish and Game Boards and Advisory Committees Component Budget Summary

Component: Fish and Game Boards and Advisory Committees

Contribution to Department's Mission

The Boards Support Section administers the public process for the state's fish and wildlife regulatory system relating to fish and wildlife resources, and ensures the public is provided an opportunity to participate in that process.

Core Services

All expenses and activities related to the Board of Fisheries, Board of Game, Joint Boards of Fisheries and Game, Fish and Game Advisory Committees, and staff support for the regulatory process are included in this component. The Board of Fisheries typically meets five times, plus teleconferences; the Board of Game typically meets three times, plus teleconferences; and the Joint Board can meet up to one time per year. Eighty-one advisory committees across the state provide local residents the opportunity to participate in the formation of fish and game regulations. The headquarters office provides direct staff support for the boards and advisory committees, and sets section policies and procedures. Headquarters staff coordinates meetings and activities of the boards, process petitions and regulatory changes outside board meetings and deal with the technical functions of correspondence, legal notices, calls for proposals, filing regulations, mailings, fiscal accountability, records retention and retrieval, paralegal research and general assurance of statutory and regulatory processes. Seasonal staff in six Boards Section office (Kotzebue, Dillingham, Bethel, Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Juneau) provides technical and logistical support for the committees, and serves as the main contact for state fish and game regulatory information for staff from the state and federal agencies and the public. Travel and per diem expenses for advisory committee members to attend committee meetings and for one representative to attend Board of Fisheries and Board of Game meetings are included in this component.

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p>A: Optimal public participation in developing and evaluating regulations for the use of fish and wildlife resources.</p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Optimize the number of Board of Fisheries proposals submitted by public.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> The number of public proposals for the Board of Fisheries compared to three previous cycles.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> Optimize the number of Board of Game proposals submitted by public.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> The number of public proposals for the Board of Game compared to three previous cycles.</p> <p><u>Target #3:</u> Increase the number of public participant entries on the master "Notification by email" list.</p> <p><u>Measure #3:</u> Number of valid email addresses.</p>	<p>A1: Involve the public in the fish and game advisory committee process.</p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Notify the public of election meetings at least two weeks prior to the advisory committee (AC) election meeting.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Number of AC election meetings publicly noticed at least two weeks in advance.</p>
End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p>B: Boards perform their regulatory role effectively and within legal requirements.</p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Minimize the number of agenda change requests that are accepted outside of the boards regulatory cycle.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Number of agenda change requests</p>	<p>B1: Board members are knowledgeable in the field of action of their board.</p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Provide "New Member Orientation" to all incoming board members.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> Attendance of new board members at orientation.</p>

submitted and accepted.

Major Activities to Advance Strategies

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue "Call for Proposed Changes" to fishing/hunting regulations. • Distribute proposals around the state for public comment. • Attend and provide staff support at board and advisory committee meetings. • Prepare and issue legal public notices for board and advisory committees. • Distribute agendas to all interested parties for board/advisory committee meetings. • Provide parliamentary services to boards. • Coordinate joint meetings for the boards with other agencies and regulatory bodies over issues of mutual concern (NPFMC, FSB, etc.). • Make meeting arrangements: set meeting dates and locations, secure meeting space and equipment leases. • Make travel arrangements, block hotel rooms, process travel claims for board/advisory committee members. • Prepare & organize meeting material for the board, including written comment from advisory committees and the public, agendas, roadmaps, reports, etc. • Maintain legal records of decisions. • Write findings, resolutions, and policy statements to support board decisions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide training and technical assistance to board members, both onsite and through New Member Orientation Manual. • Coordinate input (biological, scientific, and sociological information) provided by ADF&G and other agencies to boards. • Prepare and organize meeting material for advisory committees, including written comment from the public, agendas, reports, etc. • Provide parliamentary services to advisory committees. • Provide training and technical assistance to advisory committee (AC) members and officers, both onsite and through AC Manual. • Coordinate input (biological, scientific, and sociological information) provided by ADF&G and other agencies to advisory committees. • Coordinate joint meetings for the advisory committees with federal Regional Advisory Councils (RAC) and other state advisory committees. • Maintain database of Board and AC members, interested organizations and individuals for the fish and wildlife regulatory process. • Maintain website with current information. • Distribute board/advisory committee meeting reports and summaries to interested parties around the state. • Maintain historical record of board decisions (paper and website). • Maintain record of advisory committee meetings and correspondence, including membership rosters, record of elections, etc. |
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FY2008 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results

FY2008 Component Budget: \$1,875,000

Personnel:

Full time	6
Part time	4
Total	10

Performance Measure Detail

A: Result - Optimal public participation in developing and evaluating regulations for the use of fish and wildlife resources.

Target #1: Optimize the number of Board of Fisheries proposals submitted by public.

Measure #1: The number of public proposals for the Board of Fisheries compared to three previous cycles.

<u>Mtg Cycle</u>	<u>Cook Inlet</u>	<u>Kodiak & Chignik</u>	<u>King & Tanner Crab</u>	<u>Total for cycle</u>	<u>3-Year average</u>	<u>Percent change in 3-Year average</u>
1995/1996	271	60	123	454	454	
1998/1999	208	71	75	354	404	-12%
2001/2002	332	67	94	493	434	7%
2004/2005	287	99	61	447	431	-1%

<u>Mtg Cycle</u>	<u>Bristol Bay</u>	<u>A-Y-K</u>	<u>AK Pen/Aleutian Is</u>	<u>Total for cycle</u>	<u>3-Year average</u>	<u>Percent change in 3-Year average</u>
1994/1995	126	71	91	288	288	
1997/1998	140	80	52	272	260	-3%
2000/2001	119	95	49	263	274	-2%
2003/2004	72	74	72	218	251	-9%
2006/2007	116	55	48	219	233	-8%

<u>Mtg Cycle</u>	<u>Southeast</u>	<u>Prince W. Sound</u>	<u>Total for cycle</u>	<u>3-Year average</u>	<u>Percent change in 3-Year average</u>
1993/1994	297	81	378	378	
1996/1997	266	80	346	362	-4%
1999/2000	173	112	285	336	-8%
2002/2003	213	102	315	315	-7%
2005/2006	151	80	231	277	-14%

Analysis of results and challenges: The Board of Fisheries considers changes to regulations on a region-based three-year cycle. Each year, the Boards Support Section solicits proposals from the public by distributing notices for the call for proposals via email and mail distribution lists, by posting on the Boards Support website and the state online public notice page, and by distributing information to local fish and game advisory committee members. Notices are also provided regarding public comment periods throughout the year.

The number of proposals submitted to the Board of Fisheries for the 2005/2006 Southeast and Prince William Sound cycle decreased due to increased public reliance on board-directed working groups that developed compromise proposals prior to the submission deadline. Changes in the number of proposals can be due to a number of factors including public satisfaction with the current regulatory scheme(s), whether subsistence uses are being met, and unforeseen changes impacting fish stocks.

The Boards Support Section strives to disseminate information and notices to the public in multiple formats and media. The Boards Support Section monitors the fluctuation in the number of proposals to determine whether the number of meeting days for each board needs to be increased or decreased in any cycle, and to evaluate our efforts in publicizing the opportunity for the public to be involved in the regulatory process. A comparison with the three previous cycles provides the best measure of the optimum number of proposals. Too many proposals result in an added burden to the public and department in excess of the number needed to accomplish responsive management actions, while too few proposals results in not offering the board enough opportunity to respond to changes in the fisheries.

Target #2: Optimize the number of Board of Game proposals submitted by public.

Measure #2: The number of public proposals for the Board of Game compared to three previous cycles.

BOARD OF GAME PROPOSALS

Mtg Cycle	Arctic/Western	Statewide Topics	Interior (Region III)	Total for cycle	3-Year average	Percent change in 3-Year average
1997/1998	31	52	137	220	220	
1999/2000	42	122	131	295	258	15%
2001/2002	38	61	174	273	263	2%
2003/2004	24	87	181	292	287	8%
2005/2006	48	52	148	248	271	-6%

Mtg Cycle	Southeast (Region I)	Southcentral (Region II)	Total for cycle	3-Year average	Percent change in 3-Year average
1996/1997	17	140	157	157	
1998/1999	15	228	243	200	22%
2000/2001	37	185	222	207	4%
2002/2003	52	183	235	233	11%
2004/2005	45	157	202	220	-6%

Analysis of results and challenges: The Board of Game considers changes to regulations on a region-based two-year cycle. Each year, the Boards Support Section solicits proposals from the public by distributing notices for the call for proposals via email and mail distribution lists, by posting on the Boards Support website and the state online public notice page, and by distributing information to local fish and game advisory committee members. Notices are also provided regarding public comment periods throughout the year.

The number of proposals submitted to the Board of Game for the 2005/2006 meeting cycle was lower by 44 proposals as compared with the previous cycle. The number of proposals for the Arctic & Western Region meeting doubled in 2005, which may be the result of a staff vacancy in the Arctic regional office prior to the 2003 meeting. Changes in the number of proposals can also be due to a number of factors including public satisfaction with the current regulatory scheme(s), whether subsistence uses are being met, and unforeseen changes impacting game populations.

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Target #3: Increase the number of public participant entries on the master "Notification by email" list.

Measure #3: Number of valid email addresses.

Year	Number of Public Email Addresses	% Change
2006	521	27%
2005	408	96%
2004	208	100%
2003	0	

Analysis of results and challenges: In 2004, the Boards Support Section began soliciting email addresses and created an electronic mailing list to provide a more efficient and less expensive method of disseminating

information to the public. An online form on the Boards Support Section webpage provides easy access for the public to sign up for information. The number of public email addresses doubled from 2004 to 2005. In 2006, the number of email addresses increased by 113 entries (27%) from the previous year. The Board Support Section will continue development, which will provide another avenue for encouraging public participation in developing and evaluating regulations for the use of fish and wildlife resources.

A1: Strategy - Involve the public in the fish and game advisory committee process.

Target #1: Notify the public of election meetings at least two weeks prior to the advisory committee (AC) election meeting.

Measure #1: Number of AC election meetings publicly noticed at least two weeks in advance.

<u>2004/2005 Meeting Cycle</u>				
REGION	Total Number of Acs	Number of Acs holding Elections	Number Achieving Two-Week Notice Requirement	%
ARCTIC	10	7	7	100%
INTERIOR	16	10	10	100%
SOUTHCENTRAL	19	19	19	100%
SOUTHEAST	23	9	1	11%
SOUTHWEST	13	8	7	88%
TOTAL	81			

<u>2003/2004 Meeting Cycle</u>				
REGION	Total Number of Acs	Number of Acs holding Elections	Number Achieving Two-Week Notice Requirement	%
ARCTIC	10	3	3	100%
INTERIOR	16	11	11	100%
SOUTHCENTRAL	19	19	19	100%
SOUTHEAST	23	6	6	100%
SOUTHWEST	13	6	5	83%
TOTAL	81			

Analysis of results and challenges: Advisory Committees are the local "grass roots" groups that meet to discuss fishing and wildlife issues and to provide recommendations to the boards. Meetings are open to the public and are intended to provide a local forum on fish and wildlife issues. Their purpose as established by the legislature includes: developing regulatory proposals, evaluating regulatory proposals and making recommendations to the appropriate board, providing a local forum for fish and wildlife conservation and use, advising the appropriate regional council on resources, and consulting with individuals, organizations, and agencies.

The Boards Support Section assists the Advisory Committees in scheduling, publicizing, and coordinating meetings, and provides the committees with information relating to the Boards of Fisheries and Game schedules and deadlines. The Boards Support Section assists the Advisory Committee by providing two week public notice of election meetings which required under regulation. The goal of the Boards Support Section is to provide notice two weeks prior to election meetings.

During the 2004/2005 meeting cycle, seven of eight Advisory Committee election meetings in the Southwest Region were publicly noticed two weeks in advance. While public notice was provided for all eight election

meetings in this region, verification of whether notices were provided two week in advance is only available for seven meetings. In the Southeast Region, public notice was provided for each election meeting, however, due to a transition in staff during this time period, verification of whether notices were provided two weeks in advance is not available. Documentation of public notices for future election meetings in this region shall be improved upon.

Note: The data for the 2005/2006 and 2006/2007 meeting cycles will be available in 2007.

B: Result - Boards perform their regulatory role effectively and within legal requirements.

Target #1: Minimize the number of agenda change requests that are accepted outside of the boards regulatory cycle.

Measure #1: Number of agenda change requests submitted and accepted.

Number of Agenda Change Requests

Board of Fisheries

Year	Received	Accepted
2006	45	8
2005	24	3
2004	24	5
2003	36	7
2002	17	4
2001	17	4
2000	21	9
1999	37	14

Board of Game

Year	Received	Accepted
2006	9	0
2005	8	6
2004	2	1
2003	2	1
2002	2	2
2001	6	4
2000	2	2
1999	2	2

Analysis of results and challenges: The public, state advisory committees, and the department plan and budget for each board's regulatory cycle (two years for Board of Game and three years for Board of Fisheries). The public has come to rely upon the consistency of the regulatory review time periods.

While agenda change requests (ACRs) are important to both boards in order to correct unforeseen effects of a regulation outside the regulatory cycles, ACRs may cause additional expense for the department and additional burden and expense for the public and state's advisory committee system. The Boards Support Section encourages each board to minimize the number of issues taken up out of the normal meeting cycle. The low number of ACRs received and accepted by each board indicates that the boards perform their regulatory role effectively.

Note: The data for Agenda Change Requests is compiled by Fiscal Year.

B1: Strategy - Board members are knowledgeable in the field of action of their board.

Target #1: Provide "New Member Orientation" to all incoming board members.

Measure #1: Attendance of new board members at orientation.

New Member Orientation Sessions

Board of Fisheries

Year	New Members	Number Attended	% Attendance
2006	1	1	100%
2005	0	0	NA
2004	1	1	100%
2003	3	3	100%

Board of Game

Year	New Members	Number Attended	% Attendance
2006	2	2	100%
2005	1	1	100%
2004	0	0	NA
2003	4	4	100%

Analysis of results and challenges: New board members were appointed to each board as illustrated above; orientation sessions were held prior to the first regulatory meeting and attended by all board members on the pertinent board.

New member orientation manuals were updated and provided to all board members, newly appointed and existing, at each orientation session. In addition, manuals are provided to department staff upon request, to aid training of department staff in the board process.

Key Component Challenges

In FY 06, both the Board of Fisheries and Board of Game were able to return to the tradition of holding meetings over the entire state, rather than limiting meetings to three main regional centers (Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau). Previously, the Board of Fisheries has held meetings at the fishing grounds whenever possible, to give opportunity for input to those whose livelihoods are dependent upon the board's decisions. The Board of Game also met in both rural and urban areas of the state to give opportunity for input from all citizens of the state. Both boards rely heavily on local public participation, and without it the decisions made by the boards may not be as sound and beneficial to all Alaskans. Both boards plan to continue rotating the regulatory meetings in all areas of the state during FY 08, to receive this important input. The Board of Fisheries has scheduled meetings in Homer, Kodiak and Anchorage for its 2007/2008 meeting cycle.

The Board of Game continues to implement the intensive management law, taking actions to bring board findings and policies in line with changes in state statutes. The statute also changed the requirement that the commissioner make a finding in addition to a board finding prior to issuance of a permit. The new law allows issuance of a permit with only a

board finding needed. The board continues to make associated changes to its regulations to bring them into compliance with the new law and responds to requests for Predator Control Programs in additional areas.

Additional funding received for FY 07 allows for increased participation from all advisory committees at board meetings. This alleviates limitations both boards previously experienced in that they did not fully receive the community input that the advisory committees were statutorily designed to provide. Public participation and active membership in the advisory committee system is key to its usefulness to the communities, the department, and the Boards of Fisheries and Game.

Federal management of subsistence uses on federal lands and waters continues to be a key issue for both the Boards of Fisheries and Game, and for the advisory committees. As the federal agencies implement subsistence management, the Boards Support Section has experienced an increased workload in designing a system within which state boards and the federal board may interact, responding to information requests from federal agencies, from state advisory committees, and from the public. We anticipate a continued increase in regulatory coordination issues for the boards during the 2006/2007 meeting cycle. Dual management, including two-regulatory systems, can also be confusing and burdensome to the advisory committees. Ongoing education about the state's jurisdiction and responsibilities in state subsistence management is important for continued effectiveness of advisory committees. Interaction and communication between the state and federal advisory committee systems will also increase the effectiveness of the state's advisory committees.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2008

For FY 07 the Fish and Game Boards and Advisory Committees Component received an additional general fund increment. This funding is allowing our advisory committees to meet legal mandates of holding a minimum of two meetings per year to be considered "active," and affords them to improve their abilities to fulfill their regulatory duties in developing and evaluating fish and game proposals and providing input and recommendations to the separate boards as well as addressing the Joint Board in October of 2007.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2006

The Board of Fisheries continued to implement the statewide Sustainable Salmon Fisheries Policy through evaluation of proposals in the Southeast and Prince William Sound areas. This significant policy aims to evaluate and rebuild the state's salmon stocks, and continues to shape overall salmon fisheries management.

In response to ongoing litigation, the Board of Fisheries reviewed the purse seine salmon fisheries cooperative in the Chignik Area. This regulation creates a purse seine sockeye salmon fishery cooperative among CFEC permit holders. The co-op was allocated a percentage of the annual Chignik area sockeye salmon harvestable surplus. A decision by the Supreme Court on the state's appeal overturned the regulations authorizing the Chignik co-op fishery and brought to question the Boards authority to allocate within fisheries.

The Board of Game reconfirmed its emergency action in response to a decision in *Manning v. State*. In his ruling, Judge Tan found that a portion of the board's scoring system for Tier II hunting permits was unconstitutional. The board eliminated the portion of the permit application that provided a community cap, because that cap affected individual scores. The court said that this cap was too close to providing a local preference, which is unconstitutional. The state's appeal of the decision is still in the court system.

Two new board members were named to the Board of Fisheries and one new board member to the Board of Game by the Governor. An orientation session was held for each board. These important sessions enable the boards to receive essential information from the commissioner, the Departments of Law and Public Safety, and other agencies on statutory authorities and policies, such as the administrative procedures act, the subsistence law, constitutional provisions, etc.

The Board of Fisheries and Board of Game (Joint Board) issued a call for proposals addressing the advisory committee system and the state's non-subsistence areas. The Joint Board plans to meet in October 2007.

Both boards met within the schedules provided.

Board and advisory committee information was posted on the section's website within three working days for access by advisory committee members, other agencies, and the general public.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 16.05
AS 16.20
AS 44.62
AAC Title 5
Public Law 96-487

Contact Information
<p>Contact: Jim Marcotte, Executive Director Phone: (907) 465-6095 Fax: (907) 465-6094 E-mail: jim_marcotte@fishgame.state.ak.us</p>

Fish and Game Boards and Advisory Committees Component Financial Summary

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	861.9	956.2
72000 Travel	0.0	396.7	396.7
73000 Services	0.0	459.2	459.2
74000 Commodities	0.0	62.9	62.9
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	0.0	1,780.7	1,875.0
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	0.0	267.5	267.5
1004 General Fund Receipts	0.0	1,081.4	1,175.6
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	0.0	390.1	390.2
1036 Commercial Fishing Loan Fund	0.0	31.7	31.7
1108 Statutory Designated Program Receipts	0.0	10.0	10.0
Funding Totals	0.0	1,780.7	1,875.0

Estimated Revenue Collections

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2006 Actuals	FY2007 Management Plan	FY2008 Governor
Unrestricted Revenues				
Commercial Fishing Loan Fund	51100	0.0	31.7	31.7
Unrestricted Total		0.0	31.7	31.7
Restricted Revenues				
Federal Receipts	51010	0.0	267.5	267.5
Interagency Receipts	51015	0.0	390.1	390.2
Statutory Designated Program Receipts	51063	0.0	10.0	10.0
Restricted Total		0.0	667.6	667.7
Total Estimated Revenues		0.0	699.3	699.4

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2007 Management Plan to FY2008 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2007 Management Plan	1,081.4	267.5	431.8	1,780.7
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-FY 08 Health Insurance Increases for Exempt Employees	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.4
-Fund Source Adjustment for Retirement Systems Increases	15.6	-4.4	-11.2	0.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-FY 08 Retirement Systems Rate Increases	78.3	4.4	11.2	93.9
FY2008 Governor	1,175.6	267.5	431.9	1,875.0

Fish and Game Boards and Advisory Committees Personal Services Information

Authorized Positions			Personal Services Costs	
	<u>FY2007</u> <u>Management</u> <u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2008</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	6	6	Annual Salaries	444,415
Part-time	4	4	Premium Pay	24,583
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	372,362
			<i>Less 0.56% Vacancy Factor</i>	(4,750)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
			Board Honoraria	119,630
Totals	10	10	Total Personal Services	956,240

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Administrative Clerk III	0	0	1	0	1
Administrative Manager I	0	0	1	0	1
Exec Dir I, Brds Fish & Game	0	0	1	0	1
Exec Dir II, Brds Fish & Game	0	0	1	0	1
F&G Regional Reg Pgm Asst	1	1	0	2	4
Publications Spec II	0	0	1	0	1
Publications Tech II	0	0	1	0	1
Totals	1	1	6	2	10

Component Board Summary

Board Description	Member Count	Pay Per Day	Budgeted Days	Additional Pay	Total Cost
Fish Board - Non-Regulatory Meeting Days	7	105.04	10	0.00	7,899.85
Fish Board - Regulatory Meeting Days	7	210.75	35	0.00	55,475.30
Game Board - Non-Regulatory Meeting Days	7	105.04	5	0.00	3,949.92
Game Board - Regulatory Meeting Days	7	210.75	33	0.00	52,305.28
Total					119,630.35